



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/607,020	06/26/2003	Brian Hill	60001.0245US01/MS301752.1	5590

27488 7590 01/04/2007
MERCHANT & GOULD (MICROSOFT)
P.O. BOX 2903
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LE V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2174

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/04/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/607,020	Applicant(s) HILL ET AL.	
	Examiner Le Nguyen	Art Unit 2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/4/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: "my be populated" of line 9, section [0032] of the published application appears to contain a typographical error and needs to be changed to: may be populated.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informalities: it recites the limitation "a date from the date selection control" in line 2 of claim 12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-7, 10-13, 16-23, 25-27, 30-36 and 38-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pivowar et al. ("Pivowar").

As per claim 1, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising launching a calendar software application (figs. 3A and 9(A-G)), selecting a plurality of calendars for displaying in a common display view frame (figs. 9(B-E) and 9G), obtaining a view data object for a first selected calendar (figs. 3A, 9B and 9E; e.g. 124, 126, 140 and "1:00"), calculating an amount of space of the view frame required for displaying each selected calendar simultaneously (figs. 9B and 9E), passing the view data object for the first selected calendar to each additional selected calendar (figs. 3A and 9(C-E); col. 6, lines 29-32; col. 8, lines 27-49; *selection of a particular view mode such as 124 or 126 for one selected calendar "Willy Millis" causes each of the added active calendars "DD" (Dave Davies) and "PG" (Peter Grillo) to be displayed in the same view mode, which includes "Feb, 24, 99"/124 and "W"/126, i.e. manipulation of date and time controls manipulates all displayed calendars simultaneously*), passing to each selected calendar a position of display in the view frame (figs. 9B and 9E), passing to each selected calendar a size of display in the view frame (figs. 9B and 9E; col. 8, lines 27-39) and displaying each selected calendar in the view frame simultaneously in side-by-side orientation (figs. 9B and 9E; col. 8, lines 20-21 and 35-36).

As per claim 2, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising, in response to selecting a plurality of calendars, calling an

aggregate view module for displaying the selected plurality of calendars (figs. 9(C-E); col. 8, lines 27-49).

As per claim 3, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising, prior to calculating an amount of space of the view frame required for displaying each selected calendar simultaneously, determining a size of the view frame available for displaying all selected calendars simultaneously (figs. 9B and 9E; col. 8, lines 27-39).

As per claim 4, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising, prior to passing the view data object for the first selected calendar to each additional selected calendar, calling each selected calendar by an aggregate view module responsible for displaying all selected calendars simultaneously (col. 6, lines 29-33).

As per claim 5, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars whereby passing the view data object for the first selected calendar includes passing a view mode and display settings of the first selected calendar to each additional selected calendar (figs. 3A and 9(C-E); col. 6, lines 29-32; col. 8, lines 27-49; *selection of a particular view mode such as 124 or 126 for one selected calendar "Willy Millis" causes each of the added active calendars "DD" (Dave Davies) and "PG" (Peter Grillo) to be displayed in the same view mode, which includes "Feb, 24, 99"/124 and "W"/126, i.e. manipulation of date and time controls manipulates all displayed calendars simultaneously*).

As per claim 6, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars whereby passing the view data object for the first selected calendar includes determining whether the view mode of the first selected calendar requires a display of a time bar (figs. 3A and 9B; col. 7, lines 23-32; col. 8, lines 25-26; *time bars 122, 130, 136 and 900*).

As per claim 7, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars whereby if the display of a time bar is required, displaying a time bar for one of the plurality of displayed calendars, whereby selection of a particular time position in the time bar displays the selected time position for each displayed calendar simultaneously (figs. 3A, 9A, 9B and 9E; *e.g. time bar 122 is displayed for the calendar of "Willy Mills", whereby selection of any of a particular time 124 in the time bar displays the selected time position for each displayed calendar simultaneously as depicted in figs. 9B and 9E*).

As per claim 10, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars whereby displaying each selected calendar in the view frame simultaneously in side-by-side orientation includes displaying data associated with each displayed calendar in a particular displayed calendar to which the data is associated (figs. 9B and 9E; *e.g. "Sally-Lunch"*).

As per claim 11, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars whereby displaying each selected calendar in the view frame simultaneously in side-by-side orientation includes displaying each selected calendar such that each

date or time position of each displayed calendar is aligned with corresponding date or time positions of each other displayed calendar (figs. 9B and 9E).

As per claim 12, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising displaying a date selection control whereby selection of a date from a date selection control displays a calendar position of each displayed calendar corresponding to the selected date simultaneously (figs. 9B and 9E; *each simultaneously displayed calendar corresponds to the selected date "W" or Wednesday*).

As per claim 13, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising displaying a calendar selection control for selecting one or more calendars for display in the view frame in side-by-side orientation with other calendars presently displayed in the view frame whereby in response to selection of an additional calendar for display from the calendar selection control, recalculating an amount of space of the view frame required for displaying each presently displayed calendar plus the selected additional calendar simultaneously in side-by-side orientation (figs. 9B and 9E), passing the view data object of the first selected calendar to the selected additional calendar (figs. 9B and 9E; col. 8, lines 27-39), passing a display position and display size to all presently displayed calendars and to the selected additional calendar and redisplaying all presently displayed calendars plus the selected additional calendar simultaneously in side-by-side orientation (figs. 9B and 9E; col. 8, lines 20-21 and 35-36).

As per claim 16, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising selecting one of the plurality of displayed calendars as an active calendar and applying any view mode and display settings changes made to the active calendars to all displayed calendars (figs. 3A and 9(C-E); col. 6, lines 29-32; col. 8, lines 27-49; *selection of a particular view mode such as 124 or 126 for one selected calendar "Willy Millis" causes each of the added active calendars "DD" (Dave Davies) and "PG" (Peter Grillo) to be displayed in the same view mode, which includes "Feb, 24, 99"/124 and "W"/126, i.e. manipulation of date and time controls manipulates all displayed calendars simultaneously*).

As per claim 17, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars whereby applying any view mode and display settings changes made to the active calendar to all displayed calendars includes communicating any changes in the view mode and display settings for the active calendar to each of the displayed calendars (figs. 3A and 9(C-E); col. 6, lines 29-32; col. 8, lines 27-49).

As per claims 18, 19 and 41, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising: deleting a displayed calendar from the view frame whereby, in response to deleting a displayed calendar from the view frame, recalculating an amount of space of the view frame required for displaying each displayed calendar minus the deleted displayed calendar (figs. 9C, 9D and 9G; col. 5, line 51 through col. 6, line 9; col. 8, lines 27-34; *deleting such as by toggling, substituting or selecting a calendar to be displayed*); passing the view data object of the first selected calendar to each displayed calendar minus the deleted displayed calendar

Art Unit: 2174

(figs. 3A and 9(C-E); col. 6, lines 29-32; col. 8, lines 27-49; *selection of a particular view mode such as 124 or 126 for one selected calendar "Willy Millis" causes each of the added active calendars "DD" (Dave Davies) and "PG" (Peter Grillo) to be displayed in the same view mode, which includes "Feb, 24, 99"/124 and "W"/126, i.e. manipulation of date and time controls manipulates all displayed calendars simultaneously*); passing a display position and display size to all displayed calendars minus the deleted displayed calendar and redisplaying all displayed calendars minus the deleted displayed calendar simultaneously in side-by-side orientation (figs. 9B and 9E; col. 8, lines 20-21, 27-39 and 35-36).

As per claim 20, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising displaying an all day banner appointment position across all displayed calendars (col. 7, lines 39-54).

As per claim 21, Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising displaying a task pad for entering tasks applicable to the first selected calendar (col. 7, lines 39-54).

Claims 22 and 32 are individually similar in scope to claim 1 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 23 is similar in scope to the combination of claims 6 and 7 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 25 is similar in scope to claim 11 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 26 is similar in scope to claim 12 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 27 and 39 are similar in scope to claim 13 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 30 is similar in scope to claim 16 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 31 and 40 are similar in scope to the combination of claims 18 and 19 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 33 is similar in scope to claim 3 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 34 is similar in scope to claim 5 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 35 is similar in scope to claim 6 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 36 is similar in scope to claim 7 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 38 is similar in scope to the combination of claims 11 and 12 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 8, 15 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pivowar et al. ("Pivowar") in view of Screen Dumps of Microsoft Outlook ("MS Outlook").

As per claim 8, although Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising prior to passing view data object for the first selected calendar to each additional selected calendar, determining that the view mode of the first selected calendar does not require a display of a scroll bar (figs. 3A, 9A, 9B and 9(E-G)), Pivowar does not explicitly disclose that the determination is made whether the view mode of the first selected calendar requires a display of a scroll bar. MS Outlook teaches that a determination is made whether the view mode of a first selected calendar requires a display of a scroll bar (figs. 2-3). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of MS Outlook with the method of Pivowar in order to present additional time periods not currently displayed, especially if more time periods are available than will fit in the provided space.

As per claim 15, although Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising displaying a tool bar area for providing editing and display functionality (fig. 3A; *editing via 144 and display via 146*), Pivowar does not explicitly disclose file management and printing functionality to the displayed calendars. MS Outlook teaches file management and printing functionality to the displayed calendars (figs. 2-3; *file management via File menu displayed in the toolbar of fig. 2,*

and printing via print icon displayed in the toolbar of fig. 3). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of MS Outlook with the method of Pivowar so that in addition to sharing electronic calendars, users may additionally organize and share information with others easily and effectively.

Claim 29 is similar in scope to claim 15 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

7. Claims 9, 24 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pivowar et al. ("Pivowar") in view of Screen Dumps of Microsoft Outlook ("MS Outlook") as applied to claim 8, and further in view of Onda et al. ("Onda").

As per claim 9, although the modified Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars whereby if the display of a scroll bar is required, providing a scroll bar for one of the plurality of displayed calendars (MS Outlook: figs. 2-3), the modified Pivowar does not explicitly disclose scrolling the scroll bar scrolls all displayed calendars simultaneously. Onda teaches scrolling the scroll bar scrolls all displayed calendars simultaneously (figs. 11-12; col. 15, lines 12-19). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Onda with the method of the modified Pivowar in order to display plural sets of data at the same time.

Claims 24 and 37 individually are similar in scope to claim 9 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

8. Claims 14 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pivowar et al. ("Pivowar") in view of Lu.

As per claim 14, although Pivowar teaches a method for displaying shared electronic calendars comprising providing a distinctive graphical element for each displayed calendar to distinguish each displayed calendar from each other displayed calendar (figs. 9B and 9E; *distinctive graphical elements such as names and initials*), Pivowar does not explicitly disclose the distinctive graphical element being background display color. Lu teaches a distinctive graphical element being a background display color (col. 6, lines 48-50). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Lu with the method of Pivowar in order to make distinctions for each of the electronic calendars.

Claim 28 is similar in scope to claim 14 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Mansour et al. (US 6,034,683) teach a time line for desktop metaphor.

Raff (US 6,785,868 B1) teaches a method and apparatus for managing calendar information from a shared database and managing calendar information from multiple users.

Art Unit: 2174

Inquires

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lê Nguyen whose telephone number is **(571) 272-4068**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached at (571) 272-4063.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LVN
Patent Examiner
December 19, 2006



STEVEN SAX
PRIMARY EXAMINER